

## AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the second full paragraph on page 9 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

5           US patent application Ser. No. 09/126,378 of [[to]]  
Handelman, now US Patent No. 6,404,522, describes improvements  
in communication performance of an optical communication system  
that communicates data via N different channel wavelengths using  
WDM.

10   Please replace the third full paragraph on page 9 of the specification with the  
following amended paragraph:

          US patent application Ser. No. 09/389,345 of [[to]]  
Handelman, now US Patent No. 6,574,018, describes a network  
control system that may be embodied in various elements of a  
15   communication network that communicates optical signals  
multiplexed by WDM. The network control system may limit a  
number of channel wavelengths actually used for communicating  
optical signals to an end node, and control and modify data rates  
carried over channel wavelengths multiplexed by WDM.

20   Please replace the fourth full paragraph on page 9 of the specification with the  
following amended paragraph:

          US patent application Ser. No. 09/624,983 of [[to]]  
Handelman, now US Patent No. 6,763,191, describes an optical  
switching apparatus that selectively combines and separates series of  
25   optical signal samples using OTDM and/or WDM.

Please replace the fifth full paragraph on page 9 of the specification with the  
following amended paragraph:

US patent application Ser. No. 09/976,243 of [[to]] Handelman  
et al, now published as Pub. No. US 2002/0048067, describes an  
optical switching apparatus that selectively combines and separates,  
using OTDM and/or WDM, optical signal samples that are obtained  
by a spread spectrum technique or a combination of optical signal  
samples that are obtained by a spread spectrum technique and optical  
signal samples that are carried over discrete channel wavelengths.

5